

# California OES Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, February 28, 2019  
9:00 AM PST

Day 1: Strong winds over portions of Southern Region.  
Lingering snow over the Sierra today. Rivers and streams  
will be falling below critical levels but water over low  
lying areas and roads will be slow to recede.

**National Weather Service**  
*Western Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Salt Lake City, UT*



# **WEATHER KEY POINTS**

**02/28/19 - 03/06/19**

## **Today-Friday Day - Drier**

- Rain has mostly ended with the exception of light snowfall over the Sierra today; less than 0.25" rain over Southern Region.
- Winter Storm Warning remains in effect for the Sierra above 4500 feet through mid day today.
- Although rainfall has mostly ended, runoff from moderate/heavy rain these past few days will keep rivers flowing high with flooding of low lying areas and some roads. Water will be very slow to recede.
- With saturated grounds, the threat of rock and mud slides along steep terrain cannot be eliminated today.
- Winds will be strong and gusty over Southern Region; Owens Valley and Eastern Sierra slopes. Winds 25-35 mph with gust to 55 mph possible through Friday morning.
  - Downed tree branches and power lines possible with power outages. Strong crosswinds Highway 395

## **Friday Night-Saturday – Next storm**

- Next weather system will start to move through the state Friday night and continue through early Sunday. This system is moving faster than the one now exiting the state and is aimed at Central CA, impacting Southern Coastal Region and Southern Inland Region more so than the system exiting the state today.
- Rainfall amounts over the Northern half of the state will be 0.50-1.00"; higher amounts expected over the Southern Coastal Region and Southern Inland Region with amounts 1.00-1.50". Rainfall rates are not expected to exceed critical thresholds for debris flows.
- Winter Storm Watch in effect for Sierra Nevada, both Northern Sierra and Southern Sierra, starting Friday night. Snow levels will be around 5500 feet for the Northern Sierra and 7000 feet for the Southern Sierra; 1-2 feet accumulation possible. Road closures through mountain passes are expected.
- Winds will be strong and gusty over ridgetops and crests; 55 mph gusts. The strong winds and reduced visibility in blowing snow will make driving very difficult.

## **Sunday-Monday – Break in storms**

- Will see a much needed break in wet weather before the next system moves through.

## **Tuesday-Wednesday – Next storm**

- This next system look wetter than the weekend with moderate to heavy rainfall expected at times. Don't have a lot of details at this time other than our confidence is increasing that this will be an impactful storm for the state.



# CALIFORNIA WEATHER IMPACTS

02/28/19 - 03/06/19

<u>Hazards / Day</u>	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
<b>Non-Thunderstorm Damaging Winds</b>	Southern	Coastal/ Inland	Inland/ Southern			All Regions	All Regions
<b>Snow</b>	Inland	Inland	Inland	Inland		All Regions	All Regions
<b>Coastal Flooding</b>							
<b>River Flooding</b>	Inland		Inland			All Regions	All Regions
<b>Thunderstorms (Wind / Hail / Tornadoes)</b>							
<b>Fire Weather (Low Humidity / Wind / Dry Thunderstorms)</b>							
<b>Heat Risk</b>							
<b>Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding / Debris Flow</b>		Southern/ Inland	Southern/ Inland			All Regions	All Regions
<b>Extreme Cold</b>							



No Impacts



Minimal Impacts



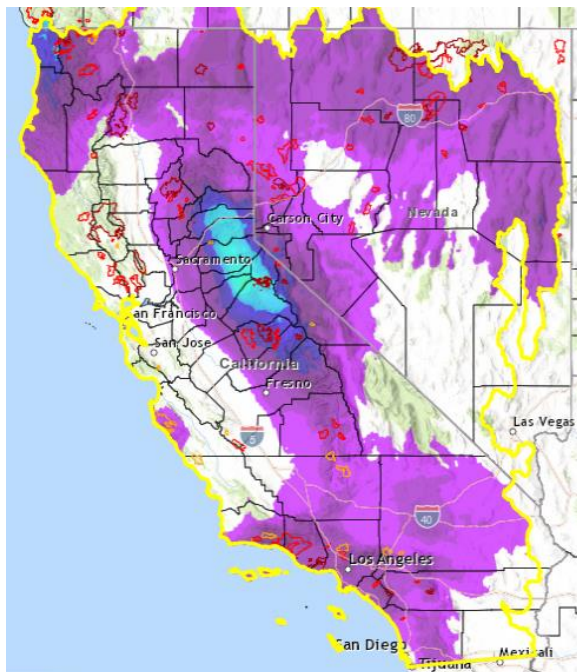
Moderate Impacts



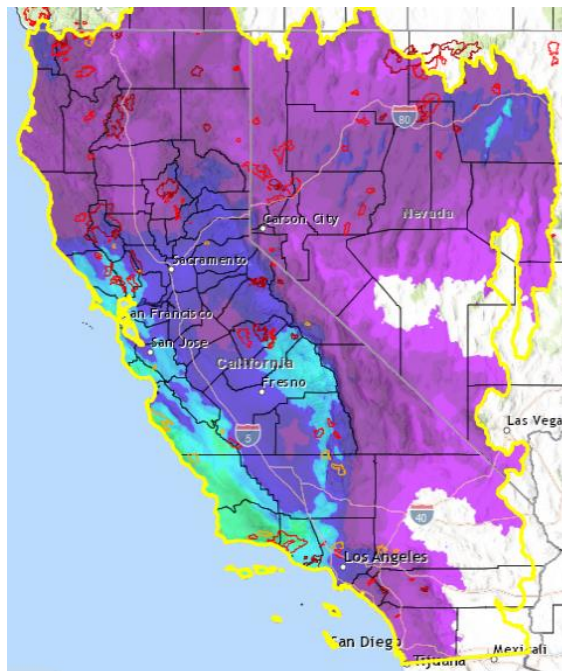
Severe Impacts

# PRECIPITATION FORECAST

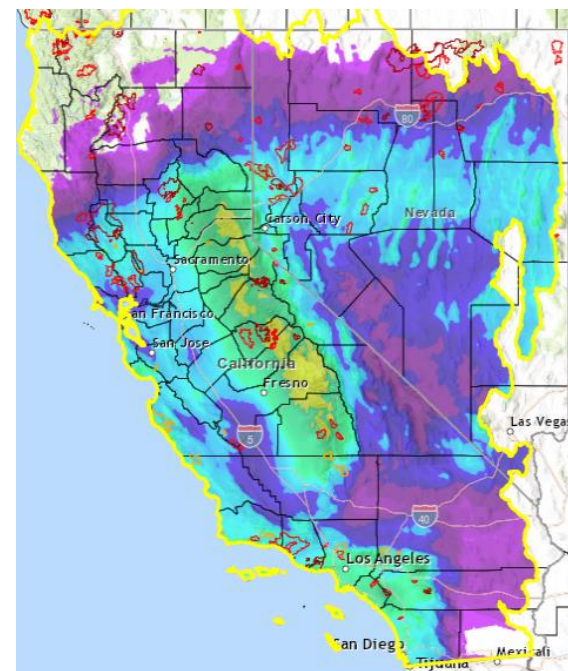
02/28 – 03/02



**Thursday**



**Friday**



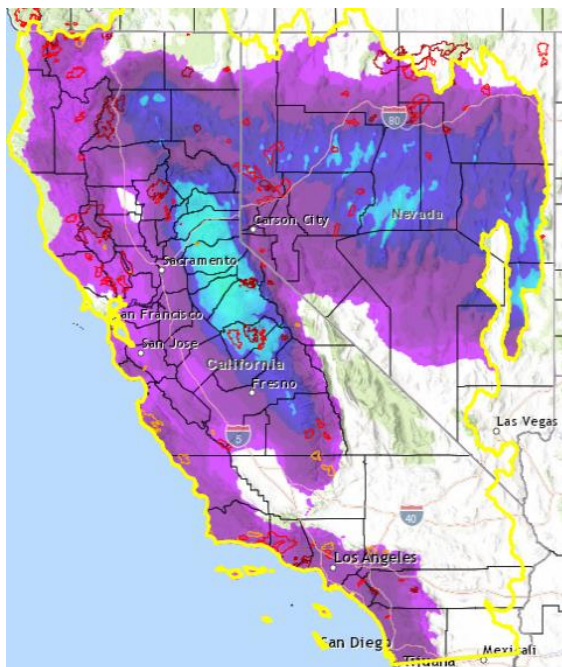
**Saturday**

**Precipitation (inches)**

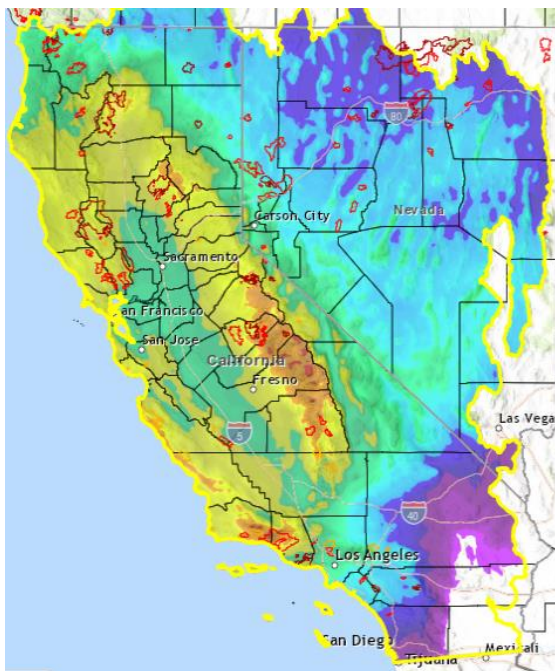


# PRECIPITATION FORECAST

03/03 – 03/04



**Sunday**



**Monday**

**Precipitation (inches)**





# **WEATHER OUTLOOK**

**03/05/19 - 03/13/19**

## **6-10 Day Outlook (Mar 5 – Mar 09)**

### **Temperatures**

- Moderate confidence in below normal temperatures Northern and Central CA with near normal temperatures Southern CA

### **Precipitation**

- Moderate to strong confidence in above normal precipitation statewide

## **8-14 Day Outlook (Mar 7 – Mar 13)**

### **Temperatures**

- Moderate confidence in below normal temperatures statewide

### **Precipitation**

- Moderate to strong confidence in above normal precipitation statewide



Information provided by:

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